

Appendix C

Abbreviations, Acronyms, Definition of Terms and References

Abbreviations

ac	acre
cy	cubic yards
ft	feet
gal	gallon
gpm	gallons per minute
ha	hectares
hr	hour
in	inches
lf	linear feet
l	liter
m	meter
mm	millimeter
s	second

Acronyms

BMP	Best Management Practice
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CSWPPP	Conceptual SWPPP
CWA	Clean Water Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOC	Notification of Construction

NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PE	Project Engineer
PM	Project Manager
PR	Project Report
PS&E	Plans, Specifications & Estimates
PR	Project Report
PSR	Project Study Report
PSSR	Project Scope Summary Report
RE	Resident Engineer
RWQCB	California Regional Water Quality Control Board
SSP	Standard Special Provisions
SWMP	Statewide Storm Water Management Plan
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWQ	Storm Water Quality
SWRCB	California State Water Resources Control Board
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
WDID	Waste Discharge Identification Number
WLA	Waste Load Allocations
WPCDs	Water Pollution Control Drawings
WPCP	Water Pollution Control Program

Definition of Terms

Active Construction Area: The area where the contractor intends to be actively involved in soil disturbing work during the ensuing 21 day period during the rainy season. This may include areas where soils have been disturbed as well as areas where soil disturbance has not yet occurred.

Best Management Practice (BMP): Any program, technology, process, siting criteria, operating method, measure, or device that controls, prevents, removes, or reduces pollution.

Clean Water Act (CWA): The Federal Water Pollution Control Act enacted in 1972 by Public Law 92-500 and amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987. The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants to Waters of the United States unless said discharge is in accordance with an NPDES permit. The 1987 amendments include guidelines for regulating municipal, industrial, and construction storm water discharges under the NPDES program.

Construction Activity: Includes clearing, grading, or excavation and contractor activities that result in soil disturbance.

Construction Site: The area involved in a construction project as a whole.

Contamination: An impairment of the quality of the waters of the state by waste to a degree that creates a hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease including any equivalent effect resulting from the disposal of waste, whether or not waters of the state are affected.

Contractor: Party responsible for carrying out the contract per plans and specifications. The Standard Specifications and Special Provisions contain storm water protection requirements the contractor must address.

Desert Areas: Areas within the Colorado River Basin RWQCB and the North and South Lahontan RWQCB jurisdictions (excluding the Mono and Antelope areas, East and West Walker River, East and West Carson River, and the Truckee and Little Truckee River).

Discharge: Any release, spill, leak, pump, flow, escape, dumping, or disposal of any liquid, semi-solid or solid substance.

Disturbed Areas: Areas that have been purposefully cleared, grubbed, excavated, or graded by the contractor; ground surface that has been disrupted by construction activities, including construction access/roads, producing significant areas of exposed soil and soil piles. Staging and storage sites are considered as part of the total disturbed land area, if they are located on erodible soil within state right-of-way.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Agency that issued the regulations to control pollutants in storm water runoff discharges (The Clean Water Act and NPDES permit requirements).

Erosion: The wearing away of land surface primarily by wind or water. Erosion occurs naturally as a result of weather or runoff but can be intensified by clearing, grading, or excavation of the land surface.

Exempt Construction Activities: Activities exempt from the Permit, including routine maintenance to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the facility; and emergency construction activities required to protect public health and safety. Local permits may not exempt these activities.

Existing vegetation: Any vegetated area that has not already been cleared and grubbed.

Fair Weather Prediction: When there is no precipitation in the forecast between the current calendar day and the next working day. The National Weather Service NOAA Weather Radio forecast shall be used. The contractor may propose an alternative forecast for use if approved by the Engineer.

Feasible: Economically achievable or cost-effective measures which reflect a reasonable degree of pollutant reduction achievable through the application of available nonpoint pollution control practices, technologies, processes, site criteria, operating methods, or other alternatives.

Good Housekeeping: A common practice related to the storage, use, or cleanup of materials, performed in a manner that minimizes the discharge of pollutants.

Local permit: An NPDES storm water permit issued to a District by the RWQCB having jurisdiction over the job site. Requirements of the local permit are generally similar to, but supersede the requirements of the General Permit. The District Storm Water Coordinator should be consulted to identify and to incorporate variances between the local permit and General Permit.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit: The national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing Permits under the Clean Water Act. A permit issued pursuant to the Clean Water Act that requires the discharge of pollutants to Waters of the United States from storm water be controlled.

Non-active Construction Area: Any area not considered to be an active construction area. Active construction areas become nonactive construction areas whenever construction activities are expected to be discontinued for a period of 21 or more days during the rainy season.

Non-Storm Water Discharge: Any discharge to a storm drain system or receiving water that is not composed entirely of storm water.

Notification of Construction (NOC): A formal notification submitted by Caltrans to the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) at least 30 days prior to the start of a construction project that will result in the disturbance of two hectares (five acres) of soil. Information on the tentative start date, tentative duration, location of construction, description of project, estimated number of affected acres, and the name and phone number of the Resident Engineer is provided.

Notice of Completion of Construction (NCC): A formal notice submitted by Caltrans to the appropriate Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) upon completion of the construction and stabilization of a site, for Permit site terminating coverage under the permit. The NCC is filed by the RE.

Permanent BMP: BMPs that are installed during construction and designed to provide long-term storm water quality protection following a project's completion.

Permit: The NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges from the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Properties, Facilities and Activities – Order No. 99-06-DWQ.

Project Engineer (PE): Caltrans staff responsible for preparation of Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E) documents otherwise known as "contract plans" or "bid documents."

Project Manager (PM): Caltrans staff responsible for "shepherding" a project through the project planning and development process, verifying that all requirements, including storm water protection, are met.

Pollution: The man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, and radiological integrity of water. An alteration of the quality of the water of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects either the waters for beneficial uses or facilities that serve these beneficial uses.

Receiving Waters: All surface water bodies within the permit area.

Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB): California agencies that implement and enforce Clean Water Act Section 402(p) NPDES permit requirements, and are issuers and administrators of these permits as delegated by EPA. There are nine regional boards working with the State Water Resources Control Board.

Regional Work Plan: A plan that describes how the various programs will be implemented by the Districts in each region.

Resident Engineer (RE): The Caltrans representative charged with administration of construction contracts. The RE decides questions regarding acceptability of material furnished and work performed. The RE has "contractual authority" to direct the contractor and impose sanctions if the contractor fails to take prompt and appropriate action to correct deficiencies. The following contractual sanctions can be imposed by the RE: (a) withholding payments (or portions of payments), (b) suspending work, (c) bringing in a separate contractor to complete work items (the contractor is billed for such costs), (d) assessing liquidated damages including passing along fines for permit violations, (e) initiating cancellation of the construction contract.

Sediment: Organic or inorganic material that is carried by or suspended in water and that settles out to form deposits in the storm drain system or receiving waters.

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB): California agency that implements and enforces Clean Water Act Section 402(p) NPDES permit requirements, is issuer and administrator of these permits as delegated by EPA. Works with the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

Storm Drain System: Streets, gutters, inlets, conduits, natural or artificial drains, channels and watercourses, or other facilities that are owned, operated, maintained and used for the purpose of collecting, storing, transporting, or disposing of storm water.

Storm Water: Rainfall runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage. It excludes infiltration and runoff from agricultural land.

Storm Water Inspector: Caltrans staff member who provides support to the Resident Engineer. Coordinates activities and correspondence related to WPCP and SWPPP review and implementation.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP): A plan required by the Permit that includes site map(s), an identification of construction/contractor activities that could cause pollutants in the storm water, and a description of measures or practices to control these pollutants. It must be prepared and approved before construction begins. A SWPPP prepared in accordance with the Special Provisions and the Handbooks will satisfy Standard Specifications Section 7-1.01G - Water Pollution, requirement for preparation of a program to control water pollution.

Temporary Construction Site BMPs: BMPs that are required only temporarily to address a short-term storm water contamination threat. For example, silt fences are located near the base of newly graded slopes that have a substantial area of exposed soil. Then, during rainfall, the silt fences filter and collect sediment from runoff flowing off the slope.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL): The maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can assimilate and still meet ambient water quality standards. TMDLs are established for water quality-limited segments, which are defined as “any segment where it is known that water quality does not meet applicable water quality standards, and/or is not expected to meet applicable water quality standards, even after the application of technology-based effluent limitations...” (40 CFR 130.2(j)). TMDLs are implemented through waste load allocations (WLA) applied to point sources and load allocations (LA) applied to nonpoint sources.

Water Pollution Control Program (WPCP): A program that must be prepared and implemented by the construction contractor under Standard Specifications Section 7-1.01G - Water Pollution, for projects that disturb less than 5 acres (2 hectares) of land.

Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID): The unique project number issued by the SWRCB upon receipt of the notice of intent (NOI).

Waste Load Allocations (WLA): The maximum load of pollutants each discharger of waste is allowed to release into a particular waterway. Discharge limits are usually required for each specific water quality criterion being, or expected to be, violated. Also, the portion of a stream’s total assimilation capacity assigned to an individual discharge.

Rainy Season: The dates of the rainy season shall be as specified: use dates in the local permit if a local permit is applicable to the project site and rainy season dates are specified therein; or, if the local permit does not specify rainy season dates and/or in areas of the state not subject to a local permit, the rainy season dates shall be determined using Table 3-5 of this Guide.

References

California Bank and Shore Rock Slope Protection Design. Caltrans Study No. F90TL03 (June 1996)

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